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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 CAIRO 001013

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR NEA/ELA, AF/SPG

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SUBJECT: FORMER SUDANESE PM AL-SADIQ AL-MAHDI PRESENTS
SOLUTIONS FOR SUDAN

REF: A. CAIRO 550 B. CAIRO 823 Classified By: Minister Counselor for Economic and Political Affairs William R. Stewart for reasons 1.4 (b) and 1.(C) Key Points: -- Former Sudanese PM Al Sadiq Al Mahdi told us that the Government of Sudan (GOS) is beset by many problems in the country a

2.(C) Comment: Al Mahdi just returned from a conference in Irbil, Iraq on unity and justice. Many of his ideas that he presented to us were inf

3.(C) Former Sudanese PM Al Sadiq Al Mahdi told us on May 28 that the GOS is overwhelmed trying to deal with multiple political crises in the c

4.(C) Al Mahdi lauded efforts of S/E Gration to negotiate a ceasefire between Chad and Sudan because reconciliation between the two countries i

5.(C) Al Mahdi stated that Sudan needs a "Taif-type solution" to Darfur that includes the five main Darfuri groups, which he said were SLA-Abde

6.(C) Al Mahdi told us that the Umma Party is taking a proactive approach to resolving the Darfur and CPA crises. He said that the party is wor

7.(C) Al Mahdi believes that the GOE and USG can both play a role in bringing the Sudanese parties together for a comprehensive solution to the

8.(C) Al Mahdi said that the efforts of the regional countries and international community are essential to reaching solution in Sudan. He said

9.(C) Al Mahdi told us that both the NCP and SPLM are shopping for coalition partners for the February 2010 elections. He said that the two par

10.(C) Al Mahdi told us that there will be three main political platforms during the elections. The NCP will promote continuity and stability,

11.(C) Al Mahdi opined that giving the NCP another term would be disastrous. A prolongation of the NCP power structure would mean continued mar

12.(C) Al Mahdi stated that all the Sudanese parties support the self-determination referendum of South Sudan. However, he said that recent att